



Glynallyn at Wintertime

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The Morris Area Responsible Dog Owners' Group a/k/a/ MARDOG is hosting its annual cocktail party, auction & tricky tray fun – raiser at Glynallyn Castle, a private Morris Township historic home on Saturday, December 4th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. MARDOG will recognize Noah's Ark, a private, limited admission shelter and pet adoption center of Ledgewood recently voted best animal shelter 2010 by The Daily Record. The mission of MARDOG, a nonprofit 501c-3 organization formed in 2001, is to promote responsible dog ownership and education in conjunction with dog park development. MARDOG also provides mini-grants for new dog parks and scholarships for aspiring veterinary medicine and animal welfare professionals.

Glynallyn is one of Morris Township's few remaining Gilded Age-era mansions. It was built between 1913-1917 as a private home for George Marshall Allen, heir to the Old Crow Whiskey fortune, and his wife Grace and daughter Lorraine. Mr. Allen admired Compton Wynyates in Warwickshire, England, the ancestral home of Sir William Compton (c.1482-1528), a close friend of King Henry VIII. He sent renowned New York architect, Charles I. Berg to England to study the castle and model his fantasy home after it. George Marshall Allen chose the Canfield Road site in Convent Station because it resembled the rolling

countryside of Warwickshire. Just off Madison Avenue, the location was once a part of "Millionaire's Row," an area once known as "Newport of the West."

Over its 95-year history, Glynallyn was the Corporate Headquarters of the General Drafting Company for 40 years and became again a private residence when Chris and Melitta Shields purchased the house in 1997. Situated amidst 7.5 acres, Glynallyn has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1987 and has been repeatedly referred to as one of the finest Elizabethan Tudor houses in the country. The mansion features intricate stone and plaster work, hundreds of stained glass windows and hidden surprises around every corner. A vaulted room called the dungeon, with heavy steel studded doors acquired from Dannemore Prison, a huge fireplace and a Shakespearean stage were extensively used to entertain from informal Halloween parties to amateur theatricals.

Alison Deeb, President, MARDOG and Finalist in the Beneful Wagworld Dream Dog Park contest, is donating her year's supply of Beneful brand pet food to Noah's Ark. The presentation will be made that evening at Glynallyn. Todd Cramer, Executive Director, Noah's, will be accepting the donation. Several specialty items have been donated for the Auction & Tricky Tray including "Shadow a Veterinarian," designer sunglasses, gift certificate to George & Martha's, The Grand Café and Salon Botanique Eco Chic and a festival of one-of-a-kind doggy-decorated Christmas trees hand decorated by Alison and her sister Leslie Carter.

The cocktail party fun - raiser includes wine, hors' d'oeuvres and desserts and a chance to win various specialty items in the Silent Auction and Tricky Tray and of course an opportunity of a lifetime to see the inside of the castle trimmed for holiday cheer. MARDOG is a 501c-3 organization and donations are tax deductible. You must RSVP by December 1st by calling 973-290 9338 or emailing mardog@optonline.net. You may also pay online at mardog.org via PayPal or mail a check payable to MARDOG to PO Box 9037, Morristown, NJ 07963-9037. Tickets are \$25/per person and \$45/ per couple. After December 1st, admission will be \$35/pp. Tricky Tray tickets will be sold at the event so bring lots of singles and your checkbook for the Silent Auction!

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